Volume 25, No. 19 | July 20, 2018

Nation

In memory

Nathaniel Bosum(1989-2018)

- The Land Remembers
- CSB Chairperson Candidates
- A New Cree Author

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Cree School Board
Commission scolaire crie

Elections for the Office of Chairperson of the Cree School Board

July 25, 2018

THE CANDIDATES

Robert Auclair

Sarah Pash

Kathleen Wootton

Date of Elections:
Wednesday, July 25, 2018
from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm

Advance Polls:
Thursday, July 19, 2018
from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm

Voting Stations
Cree communities in Eeyou Istchee.
Stornoway Mine Camp,
Eleanor Mine Camp,
Senneterre Friendship Center,
Val d'or Friendship Center,
Montreal CSB office,
Gatineau CSB office.

Come and Vote on Election Day
From the Office of the Chief Returning Officer

John-Henry Wapachee

Aly Designs Photography

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Photo provided by
The Bosum Family

Editorial

Reid between the lines

by Will Nicholls

The Angus Reid Institute released a controversial survey in early June demonstrating contradictory and sharply divided Canadian attitudes toward Indigenous people. For example, 53% of Canadians don't believe Indigenous people should have a status different from other Canadians. But 60% of the same sample group believe that treaties have been too often disregarded and ignored by Canada.

Just over half, 53%, believe Canada has apologized enough for the residential school system. Yet 47% believe the harm is ongoing and cannot be ignored.

Self-governance is a problem for 66% of Canadians who feel First Nations communities should be governed the same way as everyone else. The remaining 34% feel that they should have more independence and control over their own affairs. Even more interesting is that 53% think that Indigenous people would be better off if they integrate more into mainstream Canada, even if it means losing more of their culture and traditions.

One would have to ask if responses from Canadians indicate a level of cultural racism? This type of racism typically uses cultural stereotypes that allows people to think about groups inappropriately and ignorantly. It could be a result of systemic racism. One only has to look at Canada's historic methods of dealing with First Nations. Canada's public policies, institutional practices (residential schools, foster care, prisons), cultural representations and other norms have reinforced racial inequality.

A prime example of the impact on Canadian perceptions was the financial transparency policy of the former Conservative government, which imposed third-party management on communities with deficits. Only 28% saw the governments as spending too little on Indigenous issues with 20% saying they spent about the right amount. But 33% felt it was too much or way too much money dealing with those issues.

Most Canadians have no more than a passing acquaintance with a First Nations reserve. Only 4% said they were frequently present, with another 26% saying they saw a few things and visited a bit. Fully 38% said they had never been to a reserve at all.

Meanwhile, the poll found that more than a third of Canadians (35%) have never had any contact with an Indigenous person, 17% had a personal relationship or friendship with someone, 23% had acquaintances and 33% had impersonal contact in public places. That makes it easy to have prejudices when there is such limited contact or real knowledge of Indigenous persons or their communities. In any case, 66% felt that any money or attention given to Indigenous issues had generally ineffective results.

The study shows that 65% of Canadians have very little understanding of Indigenous issues. At best they know the basics and not much more. In that context the viewpoints of most Canadians are not based on true knowledge of the conditions, aspirations, needs and other considerations of Canada's Indigenous population but rather on prejudices shaped by opinions, government rhetoric or actions, social media or the news.

It clearly indicates a need for interaction and educating Canadians on the realities of First Nations. There is hope as 61% of Canadians are optimistic about the relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Canadians in the future. Obviously, however, there is work to do.

The Angus Reid Institute polled 2443 people for this survey, giving the study a margin of error of 2.5% 19 times out of 20.

the Nation is published every two weeks by Beesum Communications **EDITORIAL BOARD** L. Stewart, W. Nicholls, M. Siberok, Mr. N. Diamond, E. Webb **EDITOR IN CHIEF** Will Nicholls **DIRECTOR OF FINANCES** Linda Ludwick **EDITORS** Lyle Stewart, Martin Siberok **PRODUCTION AND SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR** Dan Isaac **CONTRIBUTING WRITERS** S. Orr, X. Kataquapit, D. Isaac, A. German, P. Quinn, B. Powless, N. Bertrand **DESIGN** Matthew Dessner **SALES AND ADVERTISING** Danielle Valade, Wendall Gull, Melissa Juliette **THANKS TO: Air Creebec**

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SUBSCRIPTIONS: $60 plus taxes, US: $90, Abroad: $110, Payable to beesum communications, all rights reserved, publication mail #40015005, issn #1206-2642 **The Nation is a member of:** The James Bay Cree Communications Society, Circle Of Aboriginal Controlled Publishers, Magazines Canada Quebec Community Newspaper Assn. Canadian Newspapers Assn. Les Hebdos Sélect Du Québec. Funded [in part] by the Government of Canada. | **www.nationnews.ca | facebook.com/NATIONnewsmagazine | Twitter: @creenation_news**

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News

Treated like a dog

More damning testimony to Viens Commission about **racist incidents at Val-d'Or hospital**

by Amy German

Natasia Mukash's testimony to the Viens Comission in 2017 of a traumatic experience at the hands of Val-d'Or nurses and doctors while having a miscarriage inspired former Mistissini Chief William Mianscum to disclose his own harrowing story to the commission June 15.

*"I feel like this is another **horror story**"*

- Retired Quebec Superior Court Justice, Jacques Viens

Mianscum took the stand to describe how, in May 2015, he went to the emergency room at the Val-d'Or hospital after experiencing breathing and vision problems on the way home from a long trip. Diagnosed with water in his lungs, Mianscum was put on a respirator and, once stabilized, given oxygen through nose tubes.

Later on, Mianscum had to use the washroom and called for a nurse to help remove the nose tubes. While helping him to the washroom she told another nurse, he reported to the commission, "Je promène mon chien" (I'm walking my dog).

In Mukash's case, she had been medevacked to Val-d'Or from her home community of Whapmagoostui in 2016 after having had a miscarriage 10 days earlier but continued bleeding.

At the hospital, Mukash said that nurses mocked the way she spoke French, unaware that she understood what they were saying about her. At one point she was told to use a toilet covered in vomit and, finally, to take a taxi to a hotel without seeing a doctor.

During Mianscum's stay at the hospital, he heard another Cree patient complain to nurses of pain. Every time the man from Waskaganish called out, the nurses told him a doctor would see him in the morning.

When the man finally saw a doctor at 7 am, he was medevacked to Montreal immediately. According to Mianscum, the patient died on the plane. He told the commission he believed the nurse "had something against Indigenous people."

Mianscum was shaken by the incident and called for better education for health-care workers in Val-d'Or.

However, according to Josée Flageole of Wiichihiituwin (formerly known as Cree Patient Services), both cases are isolated incidents. She says that the relations between Crees and hospital staff in Val-d'Or are "very good."

Wiichihiituwin has its own office within the hospital.

"Any time there is a case that we know about, we act on it right away," said Flageole. "I go and see the Head of Services for the hospital and open a complaint right away. They immediately investigate and if necessary, disciplinary measures are taken."

At that, Flageole said that Wiichihiituwin really makes an effort to make their presence known to Crees who are staying in the hospital or receiving any kind of treatment.

"We always go on the floors where they are and make sure that everything is okay with our patients," said Flageole. "Let's say we have a patient who doesn't want to be hospitalized or doesn't want to have surgery. Before their procedure or before they try to leave without treatment, we ensure that everything is explained to them thoroughly in their own language so that they really understand."

While the strikingly similar incidents were separated by a year, the Viens Commission recognized both as evidence of discrimination. "I feel like this is another horror story," said Commission chairperson Jacques Viens, a retired Quebec Superior Court Justice.

Taapwaauchaayimiisu
Believe In Yourself

OUR PROGRAM

Taapwaauyimiisu (Believe in youself) program is a resource available for the schools in the three Cree communities, where the pilot project is currently being launched . We offer support to the students' ages 12 to 17 years old who, for various reasons, are temporarily suspended from 3 to 5 days from school.

The expression ***"Believe in yourself"*** is dear to our program as we want to send a strong message of empowerment and self-worth to our youth.

OUR SERVICE SITES

Taapwaauchaayimiisu program in Mistissini has officially moved in their new service site at the Family Resource Centre (Old Youth Centre). Thank you, Cree Nation of Mistissini, for your collaboration in providing space for our youth.

We would also like to thank everyone that attended our open houses in Waskaganish and Chisasibi.

Should you require more information, please contact the coordinator.

Tel: ***(819) 527-0407***
E-mail: ***Byourself@cngov.ca***

Alternative Suspension
Department of Justice and Correctional Services, CNG
Cree School Board

A new atlas maps Indigenous
histories across Canada

Stories *of the land*

Photo & Story by Ben Powless

As a kid, maps and atlases brought the world to life for me, combining the stories of land and people in a visual way.

So when *Canadian Geographic* recently asked me to help edit their new Indigenous Peoples Atlas of Canada, an idea that originated with magazine's parent body, I was thrilled to participate in such an innovative project.

"The Royal Canadian Geographical Society was interested in ways to celebrate Canada's 150th, and we looked at ways we thought appropriate for that event," CEO John Geiger told *the Nation*. "Nothing was more important than recognizing and participating in the reconciliation process, of which education is vital.

"What we do is tell stories with maps."

That began a conversation with then-Indigenous Affairs Minister Carolyn Bennett, and later with partners from the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK), the Métis National Council (MNC), and Indspire.

For AFN Education Director Janice Ciavaglia, it was important to have this unique educational resource written by Indigenous people, and to make something that features Indigenous cultures and communities as they are today for both First Nations and non-Native students.

"There's something magical about books – the smell, the feel – that makes them more real," Ciavaglia explained. "It would be nice to see [the atlas] in every classroom. It's a shared history – not just for First Nations schools."

As a teacher, Ciavaglia hopes that it can be a fundamental resource in schools and libraries nationally, across many subject areas and grades.

Geiger sees it as useful for adults as well as children. "It should be in school libraries and schools across Canada," he insisted. "It tells important stories of our history and current reality that have been neglected, overlooked, hidden or ignored. Every Canadian would benefit from reading these works."

In addition to the four volumes of books – focused respectively on First Nations, the Métis, the Inuit and maps – the project also includes the creation of a giant floor map, which is set to travel across Canada. The floor map envisions Canada through an Indigenous lens, through Indigenous languages and goes beyond borders created by European settlers.

Geiger says an app is available for download. Anyone in Canada can use their GPS to figure out whose traditional land they're on while offering a traditional greeting in the local language. A website also includes content from the atlas.

The Royal Canadian Geographical Society wanted to ensure that content creation was Indigenous-led. To that end, the three volumes focused on First Nations, Inuit and Métis content were all handed over to the AFN, ITK and MNC respectively. The fourth volume features dozens of pages of maps of Indigenous homelands, languages, treaties and modern reserves, as well as a history of residential schools and a glossary.

For the First Nations volume, that meant asking 29 First Nations leaders, artists, activists, educators, writers and others to submit works, art and photos, complemented by maps and other illustrations, to focus on all different themes, from the environment to residential schools to language.

"We felt it was important as a First Nations organization to contact communities so they could tell their personal stories," said Ciavaglia. "We wanted to get a variety of different themes, so we gave a theme and the writers wrote along those lines, so the stories belong to them."

From Eeyou Istchee, that includes a submission by journalism student Jamie Pashagumskum. The Chisasibi resident wrote about the importance of a connection to the land, and his section features a map of Eeyou Istchee, as well as photos of a Mihtukan and a walking-out ceremony.

Ciavaglia admits that the project was difficult for her small team to accomplish. "I learned the publishing industry has strict deadlines," she told *the Nation*. "We had about four people in the education sector at the time, it wasn't a large crew, so I had to read through it at home or on the plane, as a pet project."

"All indications are that there's a ***huge appetite*** *for these books"*

Even though she says the AFN doesn't develop curriculum, she acknowledges that there's a lot of interest in having educational resources like this. In the future, she'd like to see individual First Nations doing similar projects to have their children see their lives reflected in the text.

The atlas is not yet available in stores, but Geiger says it's getting a lot of interest. "All indications are that there's a huge appetite for these books. After a very long struggle, and lots of difficult times, there's a genuine interest in understanding and building appropriate relationships with Indigenous Peoples and I feel the book will be successful."

The book will be available for pre-order July 15 and distributed in August.

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Alternative Suspension

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Nathaniel Bosum

July 9, 1989 - July 1, 2018

by Will Nicholls

Photos provided by The Bosum Family

Almost 29 years ago Abel and Sophie Bosum welcomed Nathaniel Bosum into their lives. From the start Nathaniel was a happy child loved by the entire family. He always had a smile on his face, one that was genuine and real. Every person who met him saw this both in his actions and in the way he shared his life with those around him.

According to his father, Cree Grand Chief Abel Bosum, "People immediately liked Nathaniel and he brought out the best in people around him because of who he was and because of the beauty of his character."

The last time I saw Nathaniel was during a hunting trip with his brothers Curtis and Reggie. He had a huge smile and warm welcome for me. That was the way he was brought up and part of the values he lived by. He hunted, fished and spent time on the land often with family and his many friends.

It was something that made his father very proud. "Nathaniel exemplified everything that you work for and strive for to see in your child," said Abel Bosum. "He was smart, he was confident, he worked hard at everything he did, he was successful, and he was a kind soul. He put into practice all the values and all those guiding principles that we instilled in him that we thought would help him in his life."

Curtis Bosum echoed these thoughts. "He shed positive, inspiring and hopeful light everywhere he went," Curtis said of his younger brother. "We all remember his great smile, kind manners and respectful tone."

"He shed positive, inspiring and hopeful light everywhere he went"

- Curtis Bosum

Nathaniel enjoyed life to the fullest and was fearless in how he approached it. He loved to explore his limits and challenge himself in everything he did. His passion led him to become a top competitor in both snowmobile and motocross racing.

"I was riding motocross since I turned five," a teenaged Nathaniel told *the Nation* for an article published in 2004. "I turned pro when I was 15, and before that every winter I went to Florida or Georgia to train."

Sadly, his career came to an end July 1 after an accident during a motocross race in Baie-Comeau. He passed away in hospital from injuries he sustained.

His mother Sophie expressed her feelings about Nathaniel's racing career. "I must be honest with you, I did have a mother's natural fear when it came to the sport he chose to devote his energy and his passion to. But I also knew that he loved the sport, and to be honest, I also believe that the sport he chose helped him to develop his character, and it contributed to Nathaniel becoming the wonderful person he became."

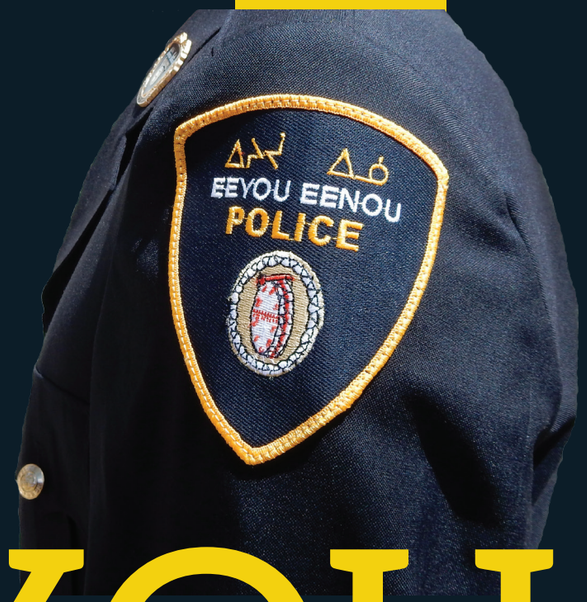
The first time I saw Nathaniel in action was in May 2001 at a motocross challenge in Montreal's Molson Centre (as it was then called) when he was only 11 years old. Though he finished second in the 85cc class that year, the next year would see him winning a provincial championship. At the age of nine Nathaniel was considered the 27th best motocross racer in the world. After Montreal in 2003 he won two provincial championships in the Super-Mini 105cc and the 125cc classes. Then 2004 saw another milestone as he won the 250cc intermediate provincial series.

Last year Nathaniel finished fifth overall in the snowcross SCMX Pro standings.

Back in 2004 I asked Nathaniel about what kept him going.

"There are my parents, Abel and Sophie, who give me unconditional support. My brother Curtis, who works with us as the team manager, and my other brother Reggie, who comes out when he can and provides mechanical support. Finally, there is my sister Irene and my brother-in-law Chris Quinn and their two children Liam and Christine who come out to cheer me on and check on how I am doing or did after each race. This support is priceless."

His commitment to excellence and sharing that with those around him is something we can all honour. Nathaniel will be missed by all who knew him.



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THE CHOICE

Three candidates run for Chairperson of the Cree School Board

FOR THE CHAIR

by Amy German

On July 25, the people of Eeyou Istchee go to the polls to choose who will run the Cree School Board for the next three years. While many were nominated, it has come down three candidates: the incumbent Kathleen J. Wootton, Dr. Sarah Pash and Robert Auclair.

The Nation asked each candidate what makes him or her the best person for this job. These are their responses.

KATHLEEN J. WOOTTON

From its inception, the Cree School Board has struggled to follow Quebec Education Programs and its education standards and competencies. Meanwhile the Quebec education system has undergone numerous reforms over the past 40 years. The Board, however, was not able to implement similar reforms due to the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement.

After the completion of the Communication, Accountability, Follow-up for School Improvement (CAFSI) Report in 2008, the Council instituted a school improvement and change process for all levels of Cree education. For the past 10 years, the Office of the Chairperson and Council have spearheaded changes intended to lay the groundwork for significant school improvement.

In 2013, the Council set up two working groups to assess the feasibility of including Cree traditional knowledge into the Cree education system. The intent was to move away from trying to "fit" Cree culture and language into a western education model to a holistic model which would make Cree traditional knowledge, culture and language as the foundation of Cree education.

I feel that with my education and experience as a leader, I am the ideal candidate to lead an education reform to develop a Cree system that is based upon Cree traditional knowledge, skills, culture and language. With an education system that will be more relevant and meaningful for Cree students and meet Quebec education standards and competencies, just as many young Cree parents rightly expect.

DR. SARAH PASH

I have always believed that our education system is the greatest tool we have to create our future as a nation. It is my love for teaching and my belief in the power of education that fuelled my determination to complete a Bachelor's, a Master's, and a PhD in Education.

Motived by the desire to serve our communities and our nation, I have been a teacher, and worked at the regional level for the Cree School Board in Education Services, before supporting public education at Aanischaaukamikw Cree Cultural Institute.

Our future is bright as a nation; our youth have great potential. As a solutions-oriented, results-driven leader, I will advocate for – empowerment, engagement, and accountability.

We will empower our students, parents, teachers and communities: their voices must be heard. Innovative approaches must be taken to ensure that all students are supported: elementary, secondary, post-secondary, exceptional, and those with special needs.

We will engage students at all levels, parents, teachers and communities, and collaborate with regional entities. Our issues are unique and require innovative approaches.

Working together we will base our school system in Eeyou/Eenou culture and worldview, as we uphold high standards for teaching and learning in our schools.

As Chairperson, I will ensure accountability and transparency; students, parents and communities deserve no less.

I believe in collaboration, determination and a standards-based, goal-oriented approach to improvement. Together we will empower our students and schools, and continue to develop our school board as a powerful tool to create our future!

I was raised by a single mother who valued education for herself and her children. My late mother Emily Masty dedicated more than 30 years of her life to Cree education. She retired as a Cree school principal. She obtained a master's degree in education and co-wrote the book, The Mind's Eye, documenting the stories of our Elders. My mother spent many hours with me discussing the challenges, hopes and dreams for Cree children in education. I wish to honour my mother and continue her legacy. My mother's love and support for those in need are qualities she has instilled and why I have spent my life being of service to our people.

We must transform Cree education to meet the needs of this generation and for future generations. The voices and contributions of youth and their representatives need to take a continued and greater role in this process. We must find solutions to the greatest challenges together and improve upon our current successes. It is the foundation to the greater empowerment of all Iiyuu. We must forge the path towards an all-inclusive education and support system that meets the current and future needs of all Iiyuu. We must study and culturally adapt educational best practices.

We all have a role to play in raising, developing, supporting and educating strong, powerful, confident, intelligent children who are proud of their heritage and who are strong in their culture, traditions, language and identity. Let's stop sprinkling culture on education and let's start bringing education into our culture.

As the next generation of workers, governance, parents, health-care workers, lawyers, athletes, activists and stewards of the land are those young people sitting in the classrooms of each community, your opportunity to cast your vote will come soon. Raise your voice with your vote and go with the candidate that captures your beliefs!

ROBERT AUCLAIR

> *We heard a lot of people saying that this event really was a healing process for them.* ***It's just proof that music brings people together***
>
> *- Benjamin Masty, WFN Youth Coordinator*

Photos by Benjamin Masty

MUSICAL TRIUMPH

First edition of the Eeyou Nigamuun Festival rocks Whapmagoostui

by Patrick Quinn

Accessible only by air or by ship in late summer, organizing events in the northernmost Eeyou Istchee community of Whapmagoostui is no easy feat. However, that didn't stop a dedicated group of community members from launching an ambitious five-day music festival over the Canada Day weekend.

The first edition of the Eeyou Nigamuun Festival is being hailed as a major success, drawing hundreds of people to the Samson Dick Memorial Arena from June 27-July 1 to enjoy over 20 popular acts, including Kashtin, KXO, Cree Rising, Fort George Rockers, Northstars, Violent Ground and CerAmony.

A message on the event's Facebook page expressed deep gratitude to community members, sponsors and the hardworking team that made the festival possible. The talented performers are credited with bringing "excitement, tears of joy, exuberant dancing, laughter, happiness, love and incredible healing for the community."

Grateful for the support he received following his cancer diagnosis and inspired partly by the long-running Festival Innu Nikamu in Sept-Îles, Larry Wapachee brought the idea of a grand festival to the community's youth council in February. He initially proposed a "three-in-one" event, including a square-dancing competition and a powwow, but with limited planning time it was decided to focus on the music festival for its inaugural edition.

While festivals of this size sometimes take a year to organize, Eeyou Nigamuun came together very quickly, with the lineup only being confirmed after Goose Break and the final budget even later.

"I was quite nervous that nobody would show up," stated Benjamin Masty, WFN Youth Coordinator and one of the event's planners. "After the first night when people got wind of it, each night got better and better. The last night was packed for headliners Kashtin, everyone knew them from the 1990s. It gave me goose bumps how everyone was so involved."

Before Kashtin's triumphant performance, which was capped by a triple encore, the crowd went crazy when Innu band Gregoire Boyz came out unexpectedly. Everyone danced and cheered so much for their hit song *Sons of Labrador* that they came back out and played it again to the same rapturous response.

Gregoire Boyz had actually been scheduled to play the day before but were forced to cancel due to flight unavailability. By a stroke of luck, the band Innutin were given the wrong return flight but had connections with a private airline, whose

Department of
Justice and Correctional Services
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Record Suspension Program

You can apply for a record suspension (pardon) to have your criminal record sealed, which can help you to get a job

You may be eligible if you:

- Were convicted of a criminal offence
- Have completed all the requirements of your sentence and probation
- You have completed the 5 or 10 year waiting period, depending on the nature of the offence

If you are a Cree beneficiary, the Cree Nation Government (CNG) can help you to fill out the record suspension application and if you qualify for financial assistance, the CNG may pay the costs associated with the application.

Need Help on How to Apply?

Contact your Local Community Reintegration Officer:

Chisasibi:	819-855-2120
Eastmain:	819-977-2400
Mistissini:	418-923-2661
Nemaska:	819-673-2400
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Waskaganish:	819-895-2126
Waswanipi:	819-753-2770
Wemindji:	819-978-3300
Whapmagoostui:	819-929-3796

If you have any additional questions or need more information, please contact the Correctional Services Regional Office in Val-d'Or at 819-874-2600 or by email at justice.valdor@cngov.ca

www.creejustice.ca

The future looks bright for entertainment in Whapmagoostui.

pilot coordinated to have the Gregoire Boyz picked up in Goose Bay, Newfoundland.

"The biggest issue was travel arrangements," Masty confirmed. "We ran into a lot of walls but managed to hurdle most of them."

When Masty spoke with *the Nation*, the fireworks planned for Canada Day had still not arrived – a common occurrence in Whapmagoostui. However, the celebrations did include Labrador tea picking, outdoor games and a community barbecue.

While Chibougamau-based Gauthier Musique did great work managing the sound and lighting, bringing the necessary equipment into the isolated community implies significant freight costs and other expenses. The organizers hope to work with industry partners and funding bodies to secure permanent equipment for future events, perhaps even a circus tent that would enable outdoor shows.

"There are a lot of possibilities for different stuff we can do next year, especially if we team up with the Inuit community," said Masty. That's because many of the suitable spots to host outdoor events are the jurisdiction of neighbouring Kuujjuarapik.

About 1000 Cree live in Whapmagoostui while around 700 Inuit live in Kuujjuarapik, a unique cohabitation arrangement of two nations on the Hudson Bay coast. The Wild Berry Festival, organized by the region's Inuit community each year – with berry picking contests, games and music – was one of Eeyou Nigamuun's inspirations.

With an eye already on next year's festival, the future looks bright for entertainment in Whapmagoostui.

The tremendous outpouring of community support demonstrated the importance of music for celebration, bringing back memories and healing. Masty received many comments from those who felt the presence of loved ones that had passed on but were there in spirit, including the story of a mother whose young daughter looked at the arena's ceiling at one point and seemed to see her deceased grandmother.

"Our community is going through a lot of social issues," said Masty. "We heard a lot of people saying that this event really was a healing process for them. It's just proof that music brings people together."

Healing through expression

Cree writer pens book of short stories about growing up two-spirited in Eeyou Istchee

by Nahka Bertrand

Storm clouds loomed over the office skylight at Native Montreal as soft-spoken Mathias Jolly, a.k.a. Maloose, introduced the audience to his newly published book *Fragments*.

The Mistissini-born man launched a self-published collection of short stories at the organization's home on St-Jacques Street June 18.

"This book is 20 years in the making," Maloose stated before sharing his life story with those assembled for the launch.

Maloose grew up in a loving home with his Cree grandparents in Mistissini. Although his family cared for him greatly and groomed him to be a leader, Maloose was different, and felt like he didn't belong in the community.

According to Maloose, he was constantly bullied growing up as a two-spirited person.

"I always feel at peace when I'm in the bush," Maloose told *the Nation*. He relates to the land, though he stopped hunting with his father after moving to Chibougamau.

It was at MacLean Memorial School in Chibougamau that Maloose and his high-school classmates were urged by their English teacher to express themselves during weekly writing sessions. These sessions, Maloose explained, led him to develop his writing skills, and his teacher encouraged him in a possible career path.

Maloose described his high-school experience in Chibougamau as lonely, since he was "the only Cree." But he focused on these skills, which would eventually allow him to write *Fragments*.

"It's something I have a knack for," Maloose said when discussing his writing. "But it wasn't something that I thought about, or as a career."

He went on to work for the Cree Nation Government for some time.

It was during this period that his grandfather was diagnosed with cancer and his brother died in a car accident. Maloose went through a period of intense grieving for which he sought therapy.

> ***It's about taking care – and who takes care of us?***

In 2008, Maloose survived an alleged sexual assault by a work colleague that left him in emotional tatters. He decided to ask for an educational leave to pursue his studies in Vancouver. Although he now understands that this may have been a form of escapism.

While in Vancouver, Maloose dropped out of school, was plagued by suicidal thoughts and turned to alcohol to cope. Eventually he ended up in a rehabilitation centre.

This period of his life is symbolized by the polar bear ornament that topped the stack of hardcover books on the table at the launch.

"In 2015-2016, I hit way below rock-bottom. People say there is rock bottom. I went beyond that."

Maloose explained that he was diagnosed with dysthymia, an affliction described as persistent depression. By then he had moved back to Quebec and was living in Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu with relatives who offered their home as a refuge when he was on disability leave. Maloose dedicated his book to them saying, "It's about taking care – and who takes care of us?"

Hail started pelting the skylight at Native Montreal as Maloose opened a copy of *Fragments* and began to read. It was a historical short story about love and loss with a contemporary perspective – and it was beautiful.

After the reading, Lori Schubert, the Executive Director of the Quebec Federation of Writers, was impressed. "Not everybody can write," Schubert said. "I work for a writers' organization, and I can't write like that. I mean I can write the language, but it's not the language, it's the ideas, the thoughts, the depth and perception, that make you a writer."

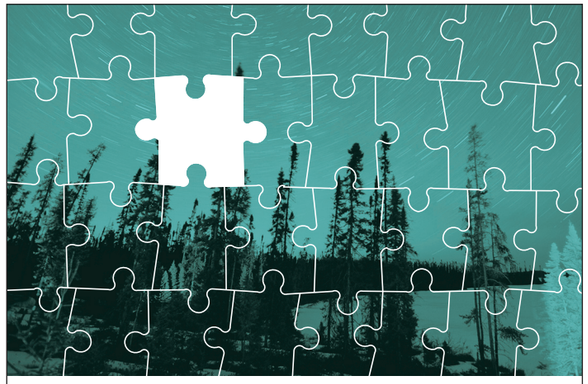
Maloose told *the Nation* that he had a hard time getting a publishing deal, so he turned to FriesenPress, an independent self-publishing company that published his work for a fee.

The message of *Fragments* is essentially that the reader of his stories, a person who relates to these themes and life experiences, may feel powerless – however it's our decision and responsibility to move forward or not.

His stories deal with multiple themes – death, violence, grieving, sexual orientation and Cree culture. Although the stories are stand-alone pieces, when put together they are fragments that express the message that healing is possible.

"I am confident and proud that I did this," Maloose said. "My healing was through expression."

Fragments is available online as an ebook on iTunes and Amazon, and in hardcover and paperback via Friesenpress.com



One last piece needed!

We look forward to the Québec Government, the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Cree First Nation of Waswanipi completing the Broadback Forest conservation negotiations.

canopy

www.canopyplanet.org/broadback @canopyplanet

Photo: © Oliver Salge

Public Notice

Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs

PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON FORESTRY OPERATIONS

From **July 30 to August 24, 2018** the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs (MFFP) invites the public to express its opinion on wood harvesting and forestry operations included in the 2018-2023 integrated operational forest development plans (IOFDP) in the Nord-du-Québec region.

An array of work will be carried out in forests in the coming years. In this respect, the integrated forest development plans clearly indicate the sectors where wood harvesting can take place, preparation of the land, reforestation, slashing, and so on. What is more, roads and infrastructure must be built or improved to access possible logging camps.

Professionals from the MFFP wish to ascertain forest users' concerns related to the planned forestry operations. You are invited to meet with them at the following information session:

SCHEDULE OF CONSULTATION MEETINGS

DEVELOPMENT UNIT	DATE AND TIME	PLACE
8751, 8762, 8763 and 8764	**August 7, 2018** 12 noon	**Lebel-sur-Quévillon:** conference room (1121, boulevard Industriel)

Moreover, throughout the consultation you can access the IOFDP and submit comments online on the MFFP website: http://www.mffp.gouv.qc.ca/forets/consultation-amenagement.jsp. Lastly, you can also go to an office of the MFFP during business hours. We will be able to answer your questions and respond to your concerns on the potential tree-felling sites that have been targeted.

Unité de gestion de Lebel-sur-Quévillon
1121, boulevard Industriel, C. P. 159
Lebel-sur-Quévillon (Québec) J0Y 1X0
Telephone: 819-755-4838
Fax: 819-755-3541

IMPORTANT: To be informed of the MFFP's forthcoming public consultations in the Nord-du-Québec region, please contact christine.morin@mffp.gouv.qc.ca and indicate "Request to register on the email list" in the subject line of your email.

Québec

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

TITLE: Director General (DG)
DURATION: Full-time
PROBATION PERIOD: Six (6) months
EMPLOYER: MoCreebec Eeyoud Council/Board – Moose Factory/Moosonee, ON
SALARY: Commensurate with qualifications/experience

SUMMARY:
The Director General (DG) is responsible for the overall direction and daily management of all MoCreebec Eeyoud Council/Board operations. This includes general oversight of six (6) departments and seven (7) subsidiary corporations. May also include other departments and corporations as they come on stream from time to time. The DG is directly accountable to the Council/Board with general accountability to the community members at large.

JOB DESCRIPTION: Available upon request

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS

- University degree in public or business financial administration

EXPERIENCE

- Five years or more of relevant experience
- Budget planning and staff management

LANGUAGES

- Fluency in Cree is an asset
- Good oral and written skill in English
- Fluency in French is an asset

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES

- Strong management, supervisory and coaching skills
- Strong judgement problem solving skills
- Strong leadership skills with strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Strong organizational skills and ability to coordinate multiple tasks
- Good knowledge of computers and Microsoft office products

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- Character reference checks (3)
- Criminal Police Investigation Check (CPIC)
- Credit rating check

CLOSING DEADLINE (Email or Postal): **August 3, 2018 by 4 pm**
PRIMARY CONTACT: Chief, Allan Jolly @ (705) 665-3984 (cell).
For general inquiries or request for job description, call Front Desk of MoCreebec Eeyoud at (705) 658-4769 extension 2006. Job description can be accessed on MoCreebec Council website

POSTAL ADDRESS: P.O. Box 4, MOOSE FACTORY, ON P0L 1W0

More than just a **watering hole**

by Sonny Orr

Rez Notes

One of the things that I feel responsible about is the use of alcohol. You notice that I said use not abuse. I consider myself to be a moderate or light drinker with a tendency to party hearty.

I can also say that I am a proud card-carrying member of the Great Whale River Community Association. It's an organization that operates a social club, where you can go have a few chilled ones and meet up with your friends and talk about things that you wouldn't or couldn't ordinarily do at home or anywhere else for that case. Yes, it's a drinking establishment that has been around for half a century in the community.

Back in the day, before the flooding, Great Whale River – also known as Kuujjurapik, Poste-de-la-Baleine and Whapmagoostui – was a bustling community. It was busy because of the American air base stationed there, which played the part of the large radar defence system designed to detect enemy bombers flying in from the USSR. They had an officers' club where the big shots could have a few whiskeys or beers. The clientele eventually expanded to include the community at large, with strict requirements about who could qualify for the then-new Social Club, established in the late 1960s.

The club grew in membership and the community suffered what can now be called abuse of alcohol. With the advent of daily flights to Montreal, the use of alcohol became part of the community culture. The James Bay Project prompted an influx of Quebec-oriented societal organizations – Société de__ (you fill in the blank with any social, health, education or energy service) – and the Social Club became a meeting place for all languages and cultures. Rules were followed more strictly than those in the Bible, which kept the house in order and the patrons loyal.

The club is a healthier and safer alternative to not having a place to have fun and a few drinks

When the JBQNA came into effect and more money was pumped into the Cree and Inuit communities for housing, schools and clinics. The Social Club became a proud sponsor of these two growing communities for many things by sponsoring sports and activities besides the usual celebrated holidays.

In many ways, the Social Club had a long list of purposes. In other communities, people rallied around the dry community and the bylaws that come with this, but today they are suffering. The Social Club, in its own way, kept things under control.

Over the years, the members have changed, with each new generation bringing new services to our town of 1200, like radio and television services, dance moves, and greater tolerance towards the stigma surrounding alcohol abuse.

Today, as I write this column, the members have elected new directors, many who are youthful and some who are wise, a good combination for the spirits and leadership I must add. Today, the club is a healthier and safer alternative to not having a place to have fun and a few drinks. Today's patrons are more knowledgeable of alcohol abuse and have learnt how to keep their inner beasts at bay and just enjoy themselves.

As for me, well, cheers!

Avis public de notification
(articles 136 et 137 C.p.c.)

Avis est donné à DONNA DANYLUK et ALLAN OBLIN de vous présenter au greffe de la Cour du Québec du district de Montréal situé au 1, rue Notre-Dame Est, Montréal, Québec dans les 30 jours afin de recevoir la Demande introductive d'instance, Avis d'assignation, Pièces P-1 à P-3 et l'Ordonnance accordée le 26 juin 2018 qui y a été laissé à votre attention dans le dossier 500-22-248168-182.

Vous devez répondre à cette demande dans le délai indiqué dans l'avis d'assignation qui l'accompagne, sans quoi un jugement par défaut pourrait être rendu contre vous et vous pourriez devoir payer les frais de justice.

Le présent avis est publié aux termes d'une ordonnance rendue le 26 juin 2018 par Nadia Galinanes, greffière de la Cour du Québec dans le dossier numéro 500-22-248168-182.

Il ne sera pas publié à nouveau, à moins que les circonstances ne l'exigent.

Montréal, le 26 juin 2018

Lucie Meunier, Huissière

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We are looking for **Cree translators**.
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BEESUM communications

Under the Northern Sky

Fire season a **burning issue**

by Xavier Kataquapit

It's that time of year again. After a long, cold winter we are enjoying a hot summer here in the north. Although we welcome this sunny, dry and balmy weather here in the north, in cities this heat is deadly.

I was shocked to learn that dozens of people died recently of heat-related causes in Montreal and across Quebec. All those who passed on were reportedly people with pre-existing health problems. But I find it hard to believe that we cannot offer sufficient care and concern for the elderly and people with health issues who suffer during a heatwave. It seems like we have enough money to spend interfering in foreign wars but we can't provide great health care, superior public transportation, safe roads or proper housing for those who need it.

Dry, hot weather also leads to forest fires. Recently, there was a major fire just off Highway 11 in Temagami, Ontario, just down the road from me. This is a cause for personal concern but the Ministry of Natural Resources and local firefighters are capable of great things when dealing with these threatening situations. It is one thing to learn about a fire like this in the media, but being close to one is terrifying. I have witnessed a couple of large forest fires over the years and they are powerful and destructive. A forest fire can come up very quickly and often is started by lightning storms or by people who are careless with their campfires.

These enormous fires are like big bombs when they get going. The heat can ignite trees and buildings from a distance. They also move very quickly. A large fire is impossible to outrun when driven by strong winds. Miles of forest are destroyed as well as homes and cottages. The fire also kills animals and birds while wiping out their habitat.

Here in the north we have a long history of dealing with devastating forest fires. We have all kinds of ways to prevent and fight them – including water bombers, state-of-the-art equipment and trained firefighters. Still, global warming is playing a role, making for hotter conditions around the world.

My ancestors saw these fires in a different way. They understood that they were a necessary part of life. When old growth forests are burned then new life springs up. But the fires were respected for the danger they posed. Elders were always leery of their young people around campfires. Our parents constantly warned us about playing with fire and leaving campfires unattended. They had witnessed forest fires helplessly on their own in the wilderness. In our northern community of Attawapiskat, electrical storms were greatly feared. Lightning caused most forest fires and before modern protections, many of the house fires that destroyed our oldest buildings.

These days, there are so many things that contribute to forest fires. We need to be careful when camping on the land and lighting fires. I see so many people who start camp fires without checking to see if there are any alerts or warnings. When a forest is dry it takes very little for a fire to start. There are things we can do to prevent fires and they include: checking to see what the fire hazard is at, dousing fires with lots of water and sand before you leave it, build a fire in a contained space like a pit or outside fireplace and avoiding fires on a windy day. At the very least we can do that.

> These enormous fires are like **big bombs** when they get going.

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